



WHITEMAN SPIRIT



Volume 41, No. 48

www.whiteman.af.mil

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 2003



Col. Gary Finchum, 509th Mission Support Group commander, tours a newly upgraded housing unit with new tenants Airman 1st Class Joshua Taylor, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, and his wife, Tabitha.

Great homes, good living

Whiteman boosts living standards in base housing, dorms

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

Whiteman's base housing and dormitories are one step closer this week to realizing the quality-of-life standards envisioned by Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander.

In a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday in the Midland housing area, the wing celebrated the completion of the first phase of the \$18 million base housing renovation project. Meanwhile, the base's dormitories began the final phase of upgrades Tuesday. Endeavor, Columbia, Discovery and Enterprise halls will each receive 420 units of new furniture. The shipments were part of a \$1.6 million grant from Air Combat Command to upgrade the living standards of the dormitories.

With the two projects combined, Whiteman has taken a great step in improving living quarters, said Chief Master Sgt. Keith Cobb, 509th BW command chief master sergeant.

"The standard of living at Whiteman is continually improving," Cobb said. "We have seen infrastructure upgrades in dorm and housing improvements, including cable service and the Cyber Cafe. These improvements are a reflection of the importance that our leadership places on our airmen."

Whiteman members also got a preview of a fully renovated house, decorated with furniture from the base exchange. Two newly remodeled units were unveiled. In one duplex, one half of building, will be a model home, and the other will be occupied by a new tenant.

The goal was to upgrade 130 Whiteman houses to modern standards, said Carol DesCombes, housing office chief. She said the 22 homes on Mace Road are done and the remaining 54 homes in phase one will be done in February.

"We have taken 1950's housing and brought it into the 21st century," Cobb said.

The ceremony was attended by Raaberg, his wife, Claudia, Col. Chris Matson, 509th Maintenance Group commander, Col. (Dr.) Rick Bachmann, 509th Medical Group commander, Col. Gary Finchum, 509th Mission Support Group commander, and Cobb. Larry Myers, Army Corps of Engineers executive assistant from Kansas City, Mo., was on hand as well as Rick LaFreney, vice president of Weis builders. First Lt. Matt Olson, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, hosted the event, and the Whiteman Base Chapel Gospel Service Choir sang the national anthem. Weis builders is the company under contract to upgrade the houses.



Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, and Team Whiteman members cut the ribbon opening the newly renovated base housing units.

The interiors of each house were completely renovated. Features included new carpeting, kitchen cabinets and bath tubs. Driveways and patios were also recemented. Many of the houses were built during the 1950s and were in need of major upgrades, DesCombes said.

Airman 1st Class Joshua Taylor, 509th CES, said he likes the new house because it's spacious and has nice appliances. Taylor and his wife, Tabitha, are tenants of the remodeled homes.

The base housing project is in the midst of phase two, with the final phase scheduled to begin in June. Phase two focuses on 72 homes in the Woodview section of base housing behind Mission's End. The final phase will be the restoration of 10-15 houses on the 700 block of Titan Road.

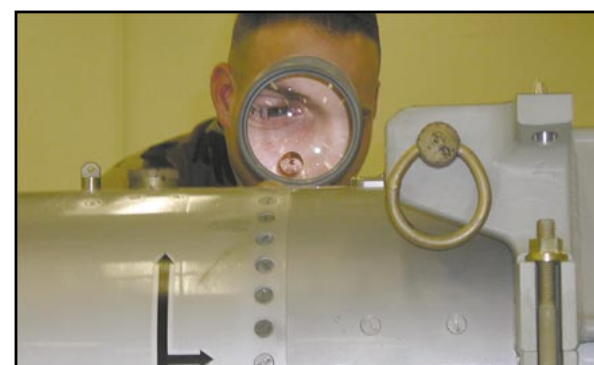
Cobb said the upgrades to the dorms have far exceeded the original plans of installing new tiling and carpets. Tech. Sgt. Joe Burge, 509th CES superintendent of dormitories, said all furniture will be replaced. This includes, chairs, desks, beds, night stands and wall lockers. There will also be couches in the day rooms and common areas. Burge said the project will be completed by Dec. 25.

Atlantis Hall finished its upgrade in 2001 and Challenger was finished in February. The dorms will also receive new beds, bed spreads, pillows and sheets. New washers and dryers will be added to each facility. In addition, floors in the common areas received new tiling and carpeting in the hallways.

NSI Countdown 5 Days

See Page 3 for this week's preparation tip

9-Line Target



You're ready: show the NSI inspectors what you've got.

Red Carpet Rollout

This week Whiteman welcomes ...

ACC Daedalian Team
ACC Nuclear Surety Inspection Team

News in Brief

Accident occurs near BX

An airman first class, his wife and two children were involved in a two-car accident at Vandenberg and Center streets near the base exchange. The driver of the other vehicle, a retired military member, ran a stop sign and collided with the airman's family.

None of the family members were wearing seatbelts and all sustained minor injuries. Wing safety officials remind base members that wearing seat belts save lives and is the law.

All call scheduled

A 509th Bomb Wing all call begins at 9 a.m. Monday in front of base operations. In case of inclement weather it will be moved to hangar 27.

B-2 gala tickets are on sale

B-2 10th Anniversary Gala tickets are on sale. Tickets are \$25 per person. The gala takes place 7-11 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Central Missouri State University Union Ballroom. See your first sergeant to purchase tickets.

Holiday party scheduled

A holiday party for families of deployed members takes place 1-3 p.m. Saturday at the family support center. For more details, call Alan Stachowiak at 687-7132.

Flu shots available at clinic

Tricare-eligible beneficiaries 6 months and older can get a flu shot 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at the base exchange.

Commander's Corner

By Col. Doug Raaberg
509th Bomb Wing Commander

IT'S TIME FOR INSPECTION. We have worked hard to prepare for next week's Nuclear Surety Inspection ... THE NSI! Let me provide some final perspectives. First, and I am quoting from the most recent Weapons Journal, "Nuclear Surety Inspections have always generated a great deal of interest from top AF leadership." I would change that slightly ... our NSI is visible beyond Air Force leadership to the combatant commander; particularly the Commander of Strategic Command! As well it should. Second, this inspection is designed to evaluate our capability to manage our most potent warfighting resource while complying with all nuclear surety standards. Re-read that sentence ... we're responsible for the security, surety and safety of our nation's most valued arsenal. Therefore, and third, our NSI is the toughest of all technical inspections that face the 509th Bomb Wing. Finally, the vector is clear, our command's mission in this inspection is to assess unit readiness, compliance with directives, and nuclear surety and safety ... that's why the Air Combat Command Inspector General team is almost 60 members strong. We're ready!!! Let's welcome



them with the right attitude, maturity and enthusiasm that's indicative of our wing ... we're the best in the business! We also welcome Brig. Gen. Steve Miller, ACC/IG, to this inspection. That's how important this NSI is to the command.

OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY IS GOING TO BE HUGE. The B-2 has come of age. On Dec. 17, we will celebrate our 10th anniversary since the arrival of our first aircraft, the Spirit of Missouri. Since then, that aircraft alone represents the true character of America's Bomber ... she has been to combat three times over the skies of Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and now Iraq. Over the last decade we have witnessed the greatest change because of the Spirit Team — you and our community partners! The B-2 is not the same and will change again because of the extraordinary team that tenders, supports, maintains and flies this magnificent platform. We're an icon of the Air Force. Please join us on the 17th to be a part of the gala celebration that will usher back a host of general officers, dignitaries, contract leaders, community partners and 509ers who will celebrate our transformation into a Full Operational Capable weapon system! I personally want to thank the anniversary committee headed by Col. Scott Land for their hard work in making this an historic day for Whiteman.

WELCOME HOME 442ND FIGHTER WING! Last week the 442nd came



Photo by Senior Airman Shawn Clements

Master Sgt. Cory Nicolson, 509th Bomb Wing, hangs lights on the Christmas tree in Bldg. 509.

home in total ... it's been a long journey from Iraq since they left this last April. They've completed the most extraordinary combat operations throughout Iraq with an unprecedented mission capable rate of 100 percent sorties in the air, on time — on target! This brings to a closure an unbelievable string of deployments from Enduring Freedom to Iraqi Freedom ... welcome home!

CHRISTMAS AT WHITEMAN. The holiday season has arrived. From the front gate to the individual units you can see the cheer! I want to thank our civil engineering team for the hard work they put into the new Christmas wreaths that hang from

select buildings on base. Additionally, our base tree is magnificent. Thank you goes to: Master Sgt. Thomas Carrigan, Tech. Sgt. Allen Mimms, Staff Sgts. Glen Simons, Jeffrey Dickson and John Karg, Senior Airmen Trevin Mead and Valton Wood, Airmen 1st Class Chad Moses, William Kammerer, Brett Saunders, Patrick Neavin, Edward Birdow and Daniel Hoffman, Airman Matthew Brinkman and Ed Lenz.

Enjoy the holiday season and be sure to take some time to shop and enjoy family ... for many of our airmen this will be their first Christmas away from home; let's take care of them! On a holiday safety note ... please wear your seatbelts!

Team Whiteman enters 'arena' again for upcoming NSI

By Lt. Col. Norman Adams
509th Bomb Wing Director of Staff

"It's not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat." T. Roosevelt

As I read Teddy Roosevelt's famous words, I'm reminded that Team Whiteman is entering the arena again with next week's Nuclear Surety Inspection. This is nothing new for the 509th, and 2003 has been a landmark year.

We went to war and completed numerous local exercises and other inspections, including the recent environmental and safety inspections, with nothing less than outstanding results. These achievements are a team effort by the hard-working men and women of Whiteman. They're building blocks to maturing the B-2 weapon system and sustaining our goal of "kicking the door down — and killing targets" in the most effective way possible.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Lt. Col. Bruce Adams, 509th Bomb Wing director of staff, speaks with Lt. Col. Randy Rose, 509th BW Chief of Wing Plans, Maj. Al Miller, 509th BW Chief of Plans and Programs, and Capt. Lisa Mahon, 509th BW.

In the NSI arena next week, remember three important things as we show the Air Combat Command Inspector General team our ability to handle our nuclear program:

1) Show them what you've got! When the IG team

visits your area, make sure you have a game plan. Review the last Joint NSI report to see where your squadron had deficiencies. These reports are available on the wing plans Web page. More importantly, go on the offensive, and lead the team to see what you have. As Col. Doug Raaberg said, "You have lost the battle if you ask them what they want to see!"

2) Stay focused. Many NSI areas are technical and involve only a handful of folks. But the entire base needs to stay focused. Some events will affect everyone. One in particular is the Recapture and Recovery Exercise. This event can happen anytime during the visit — day or night. When it does, the base will most likely go to Force Protection Condition Delta and everyone must focus on locking down the base quickly and assisting the emergency response teams. The devotion and focus of all will be vital to the success of this inspection.

3) Look for feedback. Though the IG is here to inspect and evaluate our program, they're also here to help. They're experts in their areas and have gone throughout the command reviewing many excellent programs. Don't be afraid to ask them how we can improve our own procedures.

Step proudly into the arena next week, ready to uphold the wing's proud heritage of excellence. As long as we continue to move forward together, we'll "never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

Editorial Staff

509th BW Commander Col. Doug Raaberg
Chief, Public Affairs Maj. Don Langley
NCOIC, Internal Information . . Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
Editor Senior Airman Shawn Clements
Staff writer Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Published by The Sedalia Democrat, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Whiteman Air Force Base.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Whiteman Spirit* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.



The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or The Sedalia Democrat of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, age, religion, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, physical handicap, or any other nonmerit

factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Office of Public Affairs of the 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo. All photos in the *Whiteman Spirit* are official U.S. Air Force photos, unless otherwise noted. The Services Page is a supplement to the *Whiteman Spirit* and is provided by the 509th Services Squadron.

The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

Tackle stress in the workplace and on the field

By Capt. Jason Fick

509th Communications Squadron

"Any man's finest hour — his greatest fulfillment to all he holds dear — is that moment when he has worked his heart out in a good cause, and he's exhausted on the field of battle — victorious."

This is one of two famous quotes by former Green Bay Packer coach Vince Lombardi that summarize my thoughts as the wing heads into its Nuclear Surety Inspection. When the group commander asked me to write this week's commander's column, I wanted to convey my concern about the people involved in this inspection.

I'm not only referring to the warriors of the 509th Bomb Wing, but also their families and the associate units that helped with preparations and will be leaned on over the next two weeks. Whiteman is finishing up its busiest year to date with Red Flag, Global Guardian and five Nuclear Surety Exercises, an air show, several serious upgrades to our air craft and oh yeah, we even led and supported combat operations in Iraq and other countries. When we get through this inspection — victorious — each of us will have most certainly earned some rest and relaxation time over the holidays.

We're entering one of the most stressful times of the year, and I'm concerned about our most precious asset: people. The holidays are always a high stress time both financially and emotionally. Working with the Air Combat Command Inspector General and all the associated preparations for the NSI brings a certain degree of additional stress. Furthermore, many of our folks just returned from



Photo by Airman Ryan Wilson

Capt. Fick, 509th Communications Squadron and Staff Sgt. Shelby Crites, 509th CS quality assurance evaluator, watch Senior Airman Alan Reynolds demonstrates maintenance on a line amplifying unit in preparation for the 2003 Nuclear Surety Inspection. Reynolds is a 509th CS intrusion detection systems maintainer.

lengthy deployments, while others deployed in November and many are projected to leave in early January which adds even more stress.

Lombardi said, "The achievements of an organization

are the results of the combined effort of each individual." I believe this statement epitomizes our situation. We need healthy and mentally focused wing members during the inspection. Supervisors and co-workers, it's up to us more than ever to watch our buddies, our subordinates and even our superiors. Accomplishing our mission and being able to do it reliably is paramount.

There are several things we can do to manage stress and maximize its positive effect. In other words, keep our eye on the ball! You can reduce stress by getting enough rest, having fun, maintaining a good nutritional diet and exercising. These steps help burn off stress and keep our minds clear and focused.

If you start feeling stressed beyond the normal load, feel down, or lose focus and your head isn't in the game we expect you to ask for help. Yes, it's OK to ask for help! In fact it's a major foul not to ask for help when you need it. There are many folks to talk with if you're feeling stressed. You can turn to your co-workers, boss, first sergeant, chaplains and the professionals at the life skills center. We all need to help each other through these stressful times.

I see no greater trust the American people have placed in us than our ability to protect and, if necessary, safely and effectively employ nuclear weapon systems. NSIs verify our ability and commitment to accomplish this mission. Whiteman, we're ready for this inspection. We need to watch out for each other and ensure everyone has got their head in the game. As my college football coach always said before kickoff, "It's time to tee the ball high and let it fly." Let's make it happen.

NSI Countdown: 5 Days

(Editor's note: The 509th Bomb Wing Plans and Programs Office will provide tips and other information to help 509ers prepare for the Nuclear Surety Inspection Wednesday-Dec. 16. This week's topic is safety, security and reliability of weapons security. This is the last topic.)

Security forces will be inspected as part of the NSI in December. Various Department of Defense, Air Force and Air Combat Command directions and instructions describe security forces operations.

When weapons are transported, delivered, uploaded and downloaded from aircraft, security forces are employing tactics to ensure a secure environment.

The inspection ensures that required

security standards for protecting weapons are met as prescribed in Technical Order 11N-25-1.

Security forces will be evaluated in these areas:

- ✓ Physical security
- ✓ Entry control procedures
- ✓ Security personnel performance
- ✓ Plans, instructions and procedures
- ✓ Motor vehicle convoy operations and logistics movements
- ✓ Recapture and recovery operations

Security forces also work with the 509th Communications Squadron to ensure the sensor systems are up and running in the appropriate storage and operations areas.

"Obviously, security is a key component for a safe and secure environment for nuclear operations," officials said.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steven Crane

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Turner, 509th Security Forces Squadron Bravo Flight, provides overwatch for the assaulting force during a capture and recovery exercise.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Air Force blue (star)

Chief Master Sgt. Keith Cobb, 509th Bomb Wing command chief master sergeant, receives a blue star banner Nov. 14 from Huet Donald, American Legion Post 131 commander. Donald presented a banner to Cobb and to Tech. Sgt. Sam Stoecklin, 509th BW, for their work coordinating events involving the base and the Legion. The blue star banner is traditionally given for display by families of service members deployed overseas.

Wing honors 104 Whiteman promotees in ceremony

The 509th Bomb Wing recognized 104 people at the promotion ceremony Monday. They are:

Airmen Zachary Bolden, 509th Contracting Squadron, **Amy Bowden**, 509th BW, **Kristopher Chatara**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, **Jenna Day**, 509th Communications Squadron, **Justin Grossman**, 509th Maintenance Squadron, **Bianca Hernandez**, 509th LRS, **Robert Sealer**, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and **Sarah Seitz**, 509th LRS.

Airmen 1st Class Robert Allen, 509th Security Forces Squadron, **Caluph Allison**, 509th LRS, **Jessica Backsen**, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, **Joshua Basham**, 509th Munitions Squadron, **Kristina Boling**, 509th AMXS, **Brandon Brownlee**, 509th SFS, **Ryan Dickey**, 509th SFS, **Zachary French**, 509th SFS, **Damian Frenzel**, 509th SFS, **Dwight Green**, 509th AMXS, **Sarah Green**, 509th Operations Support Squadron, **Kristopher Harris**, 509th MXS, **Anna Justus**, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, **Brandon Jefferson**, 509th SFS, **Jennifer June**, 509th SFS, **Steven Klepacki**, 509th MXS, **Bonnie Lemaster**, 509th CS, **Amanda Leroy**, 509th LRS, **Christopher Mackenburg**, 509th AMXS, **Christopher Marino**, 509th SFS, **Michael**

Menke, 509th AMXS, **Deja Merritt**, 509th OSS, **Jacob Murphy**, 509th MXS, **Stephen Myers**, 509th AMXS, **Crystal Rankin**, 509th SFS, **Jason Reamer**, 509th SFS, **Shannon Shibles**, 509th CES, **Robert Smith**, 509th AMXS, **Jack Stahley**, 509th SFS, **Richie Varino**, 509th LRS, **Arthur Watson**, 509th AMXS, and **Gabriel Winters**, 509th LRS.

Senior Airmen Andrew Bell, 509th CS, **Gavin Bledsoe**, 509th MXS, **Noah Bolton**, 509th CES, **Michael Brown**, 509th SFS, **John Brummet**, 509th MXS, **Stephen Burnett**, 509th CES, **Robin Chadwell**, 509th CS, **Ashanti Charles**, 509th SFS, **Derek Clark**, 509th SFS, **Jeffrey Cox**, 509th AMXS, **Freddy Davis**, 509th Maintenance Squadron, **Stephanie Devine**, 509th SFS, **Robert Duncan**, 509th CES, **Manley Eubanks**, 509th MXS, **Whitney Evans**, 509th MXS, **Natasha Ganaway**, 509th MXS, **Nicholas Giordano**, 509th MXS, **Robert Gunner**, 509th SFS, **Shawn Hardiman**, 509th CES, **Aaron Johnson**, 509th MUNS, **Johnny Johnson**, 509th SFS, **Jered Jones**, 509th SFS, **Holly Junge**, 509th Services Squadron, **Jonathan Kopystecky**, 509th AMXS, **Joel Lanning**, 509th CS, **Maria Maciel**, 509th SVS, **Jonathan Marrs**, 509th CS, **Christopher Moody**, 509th

CS, **Ladaryl Murchison**, 509th LRS, **Justin Petree**, 509th AMXS, **Carla Rhea**, 509th AMXS, **William Roberts**, 509th MXS, **Carl Robertson**, 509th AMXS, **Christopher Roegler**, 509th MXS, **James Smith**, 509th MUNS, **Gary Temple**, 509th OSS, **Tatum Villareal**, 509th MXS, and **Jeremy Zeimet**, 509th SFS.

Staff Sgts. Michael Antesoda, 509th AMXS, **Thomas Delapp**, 509th AMXS, **Justin Donley**, 509th AMXS, **Heather Hayes**, 509th Mission Support Squadron, **Ryan Iwanowski**, 509th AMXS, **Aaron Jacob**, 509th AMXS, **Angelo Lino**, 509th CS, **Eric Melvin**, 509th SFS, **Kimberly Schroeder**, 509th OSS, **Michael Schuler**, 509th MXS, **Travis Swift**, 509th CES, and **Aaron Yurko**, 509th OSS.

Tech. Sgts. Karen Foster, 509th BW, **Michael Gad-dis**, 509th CS, **Gary Hutchinson**, 509th Maintenance Group, **Dwayne Morrison**, 509th LRS, **Danny Poling**, 509th MSS, **David Seals**, 509th MXS, **Michael Sewell**, 509th OSS, **Edward Tafolla**, 509th BW, and **Nathaniel Warren**, 509th Medical Support Squadron.

Master Sgts. Craig Langley, 509th LRS, **William McCracken**, 509th LRS, and **Steven Scott**, 509th SFS.

Senior Master Sgt. James Kiplinger, 509th AMXS.

This space is reserved for advertisements

The 509th Bomb Wing: one family’s ongoing legacy of service

(Editor’s note: This is the fifth in a six-part series commemorating the 10th anniversary of the B-2’s arrival here and the history of the 509th Bomb Wing.)

By Maj. Don Langley
Public Affairs

“You are on your own. No one knows what to tell you. If you are denied something you need, restate your need is for ‘SILVERPLATE’ (a codename) and your request will be honored without question.”

With these instructions in 1944, Col. Paul W. Tibbets Jr., took charge of creating one of the most famous aviation units in history — the 509th Composite Group.

Sixty years later, the 509th remains at the cutting edge of military aviation — and a Tibbets is still involved. The unit now flies the B-2 Spirit. In August 1995, Paul W. Tibbets IV, grandson of the 509th’s founding commander, reported here to begin B-2 qualification training. He flew some of the B-2’s first combat missions during Operation Allied Force in 1999, and returned to Whiteman in 2003 for a second tour with the unit.

In World War II, the elder Tibbets had an incredible mission, in his words, “To organize and train a bombing force ... for the purpose of dropping a bomb that hadn’t been built on a target that hadn’t been chosen.”

That bomb — the atomic bomb — was still in development at Los Alamos, N.M., as the 29-year-old colonel began his work.

“I thought, ‘If they can put this bomb in a B-29, I can put it on target!’” he recalls.



After selecting Wendover Army Air Base, Utah, to train his unit, Colonel Tibbets brought in people he’d worked with in the B-17 community.

“I’d be surprised if I asked for 100 people by name,” he said. “The unit ended up being 1,700 people. Everything fell into line and it just worked perfect.”

Once his team was ready, Colonel Tibbets ordered them to move overseas even though the bomb was not yet ready. He had to explain this to Gen. Leslie Groves, who oversaw the atomic bomb project.

“They were just killing time,” the first 509th commander said of the scientists. “We were ready to go to war. I didn’t want to be a coach that had a team all trained up and then they wouldn’t be worth a damn when their time came.”

Groves said Tibbets had done something he couldn’t have done, which was to tell Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, head of the Manhattan Project, to “Stop those guys from piddling around.”

The 509th moved to the Pacific island of Tinian in April 1945. They received their first bomb July 26. On Aug. 6 and 9, the unit completed bombing missions to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, respectively. The Japanese agreed to surrender shortly after.

“What we did was convince the Japanese of the futility of continuing to fight,” said Tibbets, who retired from the Air Force in 1966 as a brigadier general. “That’s the way I always worded it. Because we did not ‘Win the war.’ The women and the men that went into the factories back here and built boats and airplanes and automobiles and all that sort of stuff — these people, with the help of our allies, that’s who won that war.”

His grandson, currently a major with the 325th Bomb



Courtesy photo

Retired Brig. Gen. Paul Tibbets Jr., and his grandson, Maj. Paul Tibbets IV, pause at the controls of “Fifi,” the only flyable B-29 left in the world, during a flight Oct. 2, 1998 at Midland, Texas.

Squadron, still remembers going to the 509th Bomb Wing headquarters for the first time.

“I saw the list of photos of former 509th commanders — including granddad — and thought, ‘what an honor.’

Still, granddad wasn’t the main inspiration for the younger Tibbets’ career.

“I didn’t grow up thinking I wanted to fly airplanes,” said the major.

The major’s father had planned to follow in granddad’s footsteps as an Air Force pilot, but eyesight kept him from

See LEGACY, Page 8

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photo by Senior Airman Shawn Clements

Angel tree

Airman 1st Class Jeremy Buehler, Senior Airman Chris Butler and Staff Sgt. Mike Schuler, 509th Maintenance Squadron, run the Angel Tree program. The program provides a gift for children of active-duty members who may need help during the holidays. Angel cards describing children are hung from the Angel Tree at the base exchange. People can buy and wrap the present for a child, attach the card and place the gift under the tree. Donations for the program end Dec. 18.

This space is reserved for advertisements

LEGACY, continued from Page 6

realizing the dream. He went on to a career as a medical officer in the Army Reserve, eventually commanding a mobile hospital unit.

“Dad saw something in me and encouraged me to think about the Air Force,” said Major Tibbets. “He thought it was a right fit. But he always said, ‘If you don’t want to, that’s fine.’”

The major said his grandfather, while proud of his decision to fly, didn’t seek to influence it.

“He sometimes stays out to avoid the impression of giving help, and has always told me, ‘It’s your career.’ Certainly, I think my grandfather was a hero. He was the one who figured out how to train and employ the B-29 with the atomic bomb, he wasn’t just the guy who dropped it on Hiroshima. But he and dad both said, ‘Make your own way.’ I think this got me off on the right foot.”

Lt. Col. Scott Vander Hamm, 325th BS commander, agrees.

“No one has handed him anything,” said Vander Hamm. “He’s earned his position.”

While Major Tibbets doesn’t emphasize his family legacy, he’s proud his first squadron gave him the call sign “Nuke Jr.” He’s been known as “Nuke” ever since.

“It means more now than when it first came up. The guys in the squadron understand what it represents. It’s important to me because it honors granddad and his generation, and what they did for us. So for that, I hope it stays with me for my career,” he said.

The admiration in the family doesn’t just run one way, however.

“I’m real proud of that guy,” said the elder Tibbets of his grandson. “He wouldn’t dream of doing what I did, but I couldn’t dream of doing what he does, either.”

General Tibbets remembers the first time he visited a B-2.

“I’d seen pictures,” he said. “But I hadn’t seen anything so damn big in my life. I looked at that big bomb bay and thought ‘wouldn’t that have been good to have in the war?’”

The first 509th commander is equally impressed with those who work with the B-2.

“I feel rather confident. I’ve seen some of your commanders, I’ve seen some of your men who are working and flying these machines besides Paul. I think the selection has been good. I don’t think that you can fail to do any less than we did if you’re called upon to do it.”



Photo by Senior Airman Shawn Clements

How you doin’?

Tech. Sgt. Sam Miller, 509th Security Forces Squadron, shakes hands with Brig. Gen. James Shamess, Air Force Director of Security Forces. Shamess was here last month to meet 509th SFS members and to review the status of Project Whiteman, the weapons storage area security upgrade.

This space is reserved for advertisements

Whiteman Spirit Award



Staff Sgt. Ken Kline

509th Civil Engineer Squadron

Staff Sgt. Ken Kline, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Monday.

Master Sgt. Patrick Rodriguez, 509th CES, nominated Kline for the award because he performed excellent scene management during the recent Major Accident Response Exercise.

“During the exercise, Sergeant Kline was tasked to respond to an off-base aircraft crash as the senior fire officer. This duty is normally reserved for more senior ranking

people,” said Rodriguez. “Once on scene, he was given basic information and formed a safety and rescue plan.”

He worked firefighting and rescue issues, personnel decontamination, logistics and recovery operations. The process at a major incident is slow, but Kline proved he was up to the task, said Rodriguez.

“He made the tough decisions when they needed to be made. I’m confident that as his experience grows he will become an even better ground supervisor,” Rodriguez said.

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Crew chief

Time on station: 1 year, 9 months

Time in service: 12 years, 3 months

Hometown: South Whitley, Ind.

Spouse: Christine

Children: Kayla, 11, and Kelsey, 9

Hobbies: Golf, reading and spending time with my family.

Goals: To be the best father and husband that I can be.

Best thing about Whiteman: The ability of 3,500 people from different backgrounds to work together and put bombs on target.

Pet peeves: People who aren’t willing to do their job.

What motivates your winning spirit?: The fear of failure.

If you could change one thing at Whiteman, what would it be? Construct a new fire station outside the flight line area.

24 complete NCOPDC

These NCOs completed NCO professional development course class Nov. 12-14:

Staff Sgts. Paulette Tate, 509th Bomb Wing, **Glen Simons**, **John Karg**, **Gerald Lazarow** and **Kenneth Duplechin**, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, **Randall Hall**, **Jeffrey Mattis** and **Michael Dixon**, 509th Munitions Squadron, **Larry Edwards**, **Robert Krayner** and **Tiffany Loftus**, 509th Maintenance Squadron, **Ronald Eddy**, **Mike Miller** and **Charles Raper**, 509th Operations Support Squadron, **Norman Smith** and **Tina Tafolla**, 509th Communications Squadron, **Gary Laboube**, **Robert Potter**, **David Farrell**, **Creon Faison** and **Angela Stone**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, **Peter Ross**, 509th Medical Support Squadron, **Tamiki Jacobs**, 394th Combat Training Squadron, and **Jamie Griswold**, 509th Security Forces Squadron.

*You can
never B-2 safe*

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photos by Airman 1st Class Nick Martin

Airman 1st Class Luke McWilliams, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, files down the sharp edges on a yield sign. Most of the dock, building, street and traffic signs posted on base are made in-house at the 509th CE Structures Flight Sign Shop.



Airman 1st Class Dan Valencia, Senior Airman Tim Bayes, Airman 1st Class Alvah Mills, Jim Ivie, and Senior Airmen Larry Norsworthy and Steven Chriswell remove the shingles from the Spirit of America temporary lodging facility before reshingling the house. They're members of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Structures Flight.



Airman 1st Class Zach Giguere 509th Civil Engineer Squadron High Use Facility Team member, applies putty to a crack in a third-floor wall at Challenger Hall. The HUFIT has 23 members that perform more than 250 repairs and services monthly in the 20 buildings considered high use. More than 30 work orders are filled by the structures flight weekly.



Staff Sgt. Richard Silny and Tech Sgt. Roy Grella, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron members, build a handicap ramp. Wooden ramps like this one are made to order by members of the structures flight for special needs dependents.



Airman 1st Class John Burgess, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, uses an oxyacetylene torch to cut brackets and welds on a trailer to remove an axle. Members of the 509th CE Structures Flight maintain, build and repair facilities base wide. The 42-person shop's services range from minor repair to new construction.



Airman 1st Class William Harvey and Staff Sgt. Joe Kerzic, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron members, build a brick pillar for a marquee sign on base. Masonry is one of the six types of jobs performed by the structures flight. The sign for the marquee was built in the sign shop and was the last portion to be added to the two-week project.

B-2 10th Anniversary Trivia



Week Four

Test your B-2 knowledge! People with the correct answers at the end of the four-week contest will be entered into a random prize drawing.

The first-place prize is two free tickets to the B-2 10th Anniversary Gala Dec. 17 at Central Missouri State University. The second prize is two free B-2 10th Anniversary Gala coins. The third-place prize is a B-2 holiday ornament. Participants must submit answers for each week of the trivia contest to be eligible for the drawing.

Entries can be e-mailed to whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil, faxed to 687-7948 or dropped off at the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office in Bldg. 509, Room 111 by noon Dec. 8. Winners and correct answers will be announced in the Dec. 12 issue of the Whiteman Spirit.

- 1) How much does the B-2 weigh without fuel?
- a) 400,000 pounds
 - b) 350,000 pounds
 - c) 325,000 pounds

- d) 300,000 pounds
- e) None of the above

2) When did the 509th Bomb Wing attain initial operational capability with the B-2?

- a) Dec. 17, 1993
- b) Jan. 24, 1998
- c) May 5, 1996
- d) April 1, 1997
- e) None of the above

3) The B-2 has been declared fully operational capable.

- a) True
- b) False

4) Who became the first Whiteman-trained B-2 instructor pilot?

- a) Maj. Jim Smithers
- b) Capt. Jeff Kindley
- c) Lt. Col. Curtiss Petrek
- d) Maj. Randy Rose

- e) None of the above

5) When the B-2 was delivered, who was the 509th Bomb Wing commander?

- a) Gen. Michael Loh
- b) Brig. Gen. Ronald Marcotte
- c) Col. Thomas Goslin
- d) Col. Leroy Barnidge
- e) None of the above

Name and rank of person submitting trivia contest answers:

Squadron:

Duty phone number:

This space is reserved for advertisements

Clip and Save: *When the weather turns bad, listen to these stations for base closures and delays.*

Kansas City Radio

KBEQ (104.3 FM)
KFKF (94.1 FM)
KPRS (103.3 FM)
WDAF (610 AM)
KMBZ (980 AM)
KDUL (98.1 FM)

Kansas City TV

KMBC Channel 9 (ABC)
KSHB Channel 41 (NBC)
WDAF Channel 4 (FOX)
Clinton Radio
KLRQ (96.1 FM)
KDKD (1280 AM/ 95.3 FM)

Warrensburg Radio

KOKO (1450 AM)
KCMW (90.9 FM)
KXXK (105.7 FM)
KWKJ (98.5 FM)

Sedalia Radio

KDRO (1490 AM)
KSIS (1050 AM)
KSDL (92.1 FM)

Also tune into Channel 99 on base

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photo Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Cookie time

The Officer's Spouses Club organized the distribution of 1,000 dozen cookies in the base dormitories. Tier 2 helped package, bag and box the cookies. About 32 volunteers participated in the yearly event and the cookies were distributed by the Whiteman first sergeants.



Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp at 687-6130.

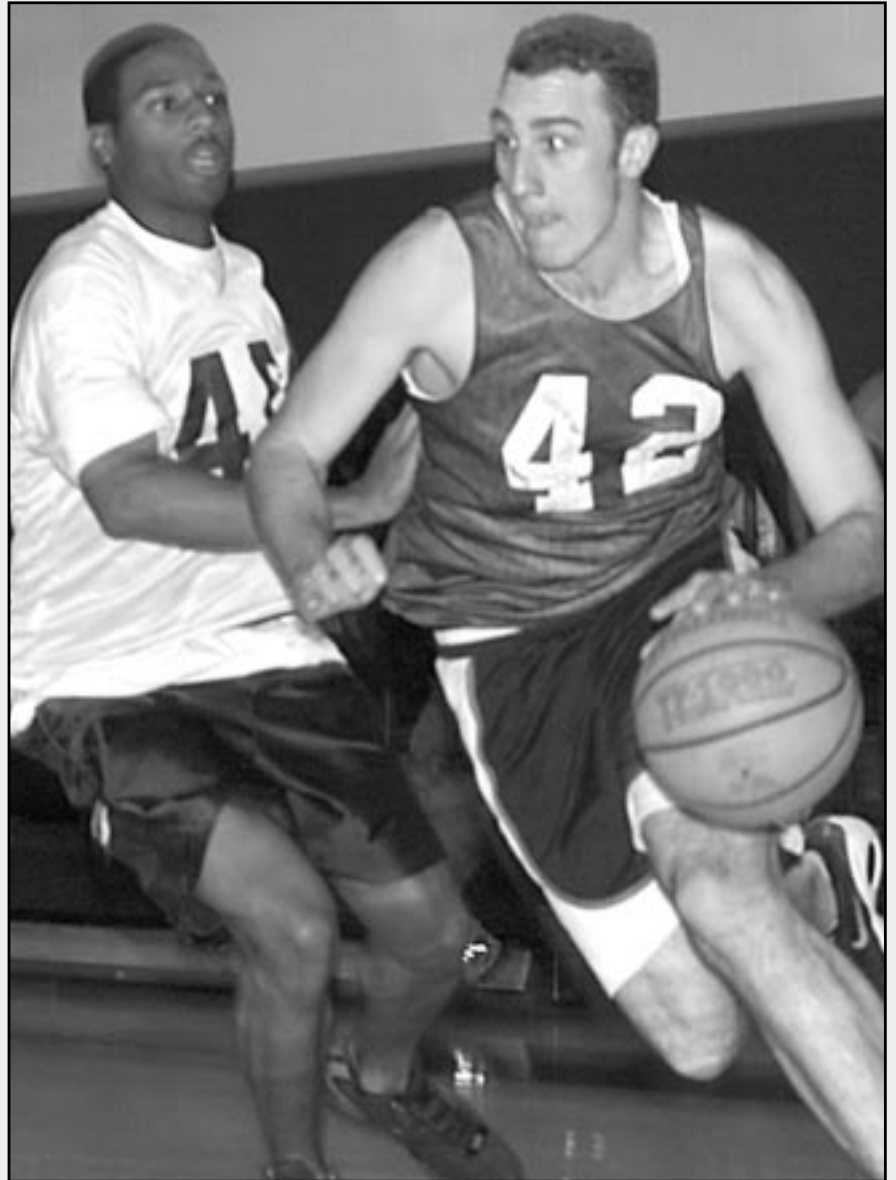
This space is reserved for advertisements



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Basketball brawl

Above: Chris Royal, 509th Operations Support Squadron, fakes a reverse layup before passing to a teammate for a score Tuesday. The 509th OSS intramural basketball team beat the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron 47-36. Royal paced OSS with a game-high 15 points. Dan Valencia, 509th CES, led his team with 12 points. Right: Zach Curry, 509th Communications Squadron, drives on Brandon Scott, 509th Maintenance Squadron, Tuesday. The 509th CS intramural team defeated the 509th MXS squad 46-39. Curry led all scorers with 22 points.



Gridiron Challenge

The Gridiron Challenge is a weekly competition between the 509th Bomb Wing headquarters and groups, and the 442nd Fighter Wing and Missouri Army National Guard.

A different person from each organization will select the picks for their unit each week.

The weekly winner receives a \$5 SeeMore Buck courtesy of the 509th Services Squadron. Last week's winner was Army Staff Sgt. Clayton Whitley, Missouri Army National Guard.

Week 14

NCAA

Oregon State at USC
LSU at Georgia
Notre Dame at Syracuse
Oklahoma vs. Kansas State
Boise State at Hawaii

NFL

Chiefs at Broncos
Colts at Titans
Bucs at Saints
Panthers at Falcons
Bears at Packers

BW



**Tech. Sgt.
Marcus Oglesby**

USC
LSU
Syracuse
Oklahoma
Hawaii

Broncos
Titans
Bucs
Panthers
Packers

OG



**2nd Lt.
Allison Thigpen**

USC
LSU
Syracuse
Oklahoma
Hawaii

Chiefs
Titans
Saints
Panthers
Packers

MXG



**Capt.
Pete Soto**

USC
Georgia
Syracuse
Oklahoma
Boise State

Broncos
Titans
Saints
Panthers
Packers

MSG



**Master Sgt.
Brent Snyder**

USC
LSU
Notre Dame
Oklahoma
Boise State

Chiefs
Titans
Saints
Panthers
Packers

MedGp



**Airman 1st
Class
Kevin Fracek**

USC
LSU
Syracuse
Oklahoma
Boise State

Chiefs
Colts
Saints
Panthers
Packers

442nd



**1st Lt.
William McLeod**

USC
LSU
Notre Dame
Oklahoma
Boise State

Chiefs
Titans
Bucs
Panthers
Packers

MOARNG



**Army Sgt.
Josh Durrill**

USC
Georgia
Notre Dame
Oklahoma
Hawaii

Chiefs
Titans
Saints
Panthers
Packers

Last Week's Totals

5-5

3-7

3-7

6-4

5-5

5-5

7-3

Season Totals

76-54

66-64

64-66

75-55

72-58

84-46

71-59



Services Page editor.....Beth Ott
509th Services Squadron.....687-3594

***No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.**

Mission's End **687-4422**

ACC \$1 lunch

An Air Combat Command \$1 lunch takes place 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday at Mission's End. Enjoy tacos, enchiladas, fajitas, Spanish rice and more. This is for club members only.

New Year's Eve party

A New Year's Eve party takes place 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Dec. 31 at Mission's End. A \$30 couple package includes appetizers, champagne and party favors. A \$50 couple package includes appetizers, champagne, party favors and a room at the Whiteman Inn. A \$20 single package includes appetizers, champagne and party favors. Carved beef, jumbo shrimp, meatballs, hot wings, cheese sticks and more will be served 10 p.m.-midnight. A disc jockey plays tunes 9 p.m.-1 a.m. in the Lavene Lounge. Doors open at 9 p.m. and couples must have tickets in advance. Purchase tickets 11 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays at the cashier's cage or 4 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Lavene Lounge.

Stars & Strikes **687-5114**



The winner of this year's Stars & Strikes turkey shoot is Master Sgt. Jeffery Folsom, 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron. Congratulations.

Ham shoot

A ham shoot takes place during regular league play Sunday-Dec. 20 for league bowlers. This event is \$2 per entry. Enter to win a Christmas ham. Sign up at Stars & Strikes.

Teen Center **687-5819**

Movie and dinner

Teens are invited to watch a PG-13 movie 6-10 p.m. Saturday at the Warrensburg movie theater and have dinner at a local restaurant of their choice. This event is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers, plus the cost of movie and meal. There's no sign up deadline. The bus will depart from the teen center at 6 p.m.

Game challenge

Teens can challenge each other at their favorite Game Cube or Playstation 2 games 6-8 p.m. Tuesday and Dec. 16 and 23. Age groups are broken up 13-15 and 16-18. This event is \$2 for members and \$4 for nonmembers for all four days.

Basketball tournament

A two-on-two and one-on-one basketball tournament takes place 1-6 p.m. Dec. 13 at the youth center. Age groups will be broken into 13-15 and 16-18. Water and Gatorade will be provided and prizes will be given to the top two teams in each division. Two-on-two teams pay \$4 and one-on-one teams pay \$2. Sign up by Wednesday in the teen center.

Last minute Christmas shopping

Teens can take a bus trip 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 20 to the Independence Mall. This event costs \$2 for members and \$4 for nonmembers. Teens must bring money for lunch, dinner and for shopping. The bus will depart from the teen center. Sign up by Dec. 18.

Outdoor Recreation **687-5565**

Festival of lights

A trip takes place 4:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 13 to Warsaw, Mo., for the Festival of Lights dinner and tour. The bus will leave from outdoor recreation at 4:30 p.m. and travel to Harry's Catfish and Steak Restaurant, view the lights in Warsaw, then watch the Festival of Lights from Long Shoals Marina. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 for a family of four, dinner not included. There's no sign up deadline.



Polar bear fishing

Dress warm while you fish 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 20 at Ike Skelton Park. Catch your fish and have them measured. There are prizes for first, second and third place. There are two categories at this free event: over 18 years old and 18 and under. There will be free warm beverages available.

Equipment rental

This month rent a rinse-n-vac carpet cleaner for \$10 a day, a six-foot banquet table with six chairs for \$5 a day, Santa suits for \$15 a day and a camcorder for \$20 a day or pick it up on a Friday after 3 p.m. and bring it back Monday by 10 a.m. for \$30. Televisions with VCR are 30 percent off. Call for more details.

Overtime rock climbing

Open climbing is available for certified climbers 5:30 -9 p.m. today and Dec. 19 at outdoor recreation. A certification course takes place 6-8 p.m.

Youth Center **687-5586**

Members only fun night

Children in kindergarten-fourth grade can play bingo, eat free cotton candy, play pool, foosball and more 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at the youth center. This event is \$5 for members only. There will be a snack bar available. Sign up begins Monday.

K-7 Christmas party

Children in kindergarten-seventh grade can sing Christmas carols, make a holiday craft, play games, watch a holiday movie, decorate cookies and more 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 19 at the youth center. This event is \$7 for members and \$8.50 for nonmembers. Sign up begins Dec. 15.

Psychedelic '70s night

Pre-teens in fifth-seventh grades are invited to Psychedelic '70s night 6-9 p.m. Dec. 13 at the youth center. Come dressed in 70's style, dance under a disco ball and play games. It's \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. There will be a snack bar available. Sign up begins Monday.

Skills Development Center **687-5691**

Children's stepping stone class

Children ages 5-14 can take a two-session stepping stone class 10 a.m.-noon Dec. 20 at the skills development center. A \$25 fee includes class and supplies. A parent must attend with the child. Sign up by noon Dec. 19.

Child Development Center **687-5588**

Child care openings available

There are full time openings for 3- to 5-year-olds at the child development center. This program is accredited through the national academy of Early Childhood Programs and licensed through the Department of Defense.

Whiteman Inn **687-1844**

NAF sale

A NAF Sale begins at 8 a.m. Dec. 19 at the Whiteman Inn. Five rooms of furniture will be available for sale. Please see the front desk for more information.

Community Center **687-5617**

Christmas tree contest

A Christmas tree contest takes place Monday-Dec. 15. There are five categories: traditional, one-of-a-kind, pitiful, thematic and most elaborate. Contestants may enter in one category. Sign up by Dec. 10 at the community center.

Adopt an airman

Adopt an airman for Christmas and give them a day to remember. Host them in your home for the holiday. Hosts and airmen must sign up by Dec. 20 in the community center.

Bus trip to Osage Beach

A bus trip takes place 1 p.m.-midnight Saturday to Osage Beach for Christmas shopping and music. Everyone is invited to shop till 6 p.m., eat dinner at a local restaurant and attend a Christmas show at 8 p.m. at the Main Street Music Hall. A \$20 fee includes transportation and admission to the music hall. The bus will depart from the community center. Today is the last day to sign up.

Stealth paintball warriors

Play indoor paintball 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 20 in Independence, Mo. There is a \$5 fee for transportation. Participants must bring \$25 if they have a gun and \$35 if they do not. Sign up by Dec. 19 at the community center.

Family Child Care **687-5590**

FCC orientation class

To ensure the best care possible, the Air Force has updated guidelines requiring that anyone providing in-home child care for 10 hours or more a week on a regular basis be licensed. If you are currently unlicensed and are providing care, you must cease and apply for a family child care license. The next orientation class takes place 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 12-16. Sign up by Jan. 8.



Friday

Kill Bill **7 p.m.** **R**
Starring – Uma Thurman & David Carradine
A pregnant assassin and her co-workers are shot by their boss, Bill, at her wedding. She survives, though, waking up exceedingly angry after a four-year coma, and decides to hunt down and kill every single one of the assassins who were responsible, saving Bill for last.

Saturday

The Texas Chain Saw Massacre **7 p.m.** **R**
Starring – Jessica Biel & Jonathan Tucker
Five 20-somethings who find themselves stranded in a small Texas town where they encounter a chainsaw-wielding maniac known as Leatherface. The killer has spent years sawing people up and constructing masks out of his victims' skin, with everyone in the town looking the other way. With no one to help them, the outsiders must find a way to escape before meeting a grisly death.

Sunday

In The Cut **5:30 p.m.** **R**
Starring – Meg Ryan & Mark Ruffalo
Franny Thorstin, a New York City professor, dives into a passionate, possibly dangerous, affair with a police officer investigating the murder of a young woman in her neighborhood.

Adults \$3 Youth \$1.50
Movie recording line 687-5110.

Movies are subject to change due to availability.
For current and future movie listings log on to
<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>